

James D. Thackston  
Application No.: 10/005,350

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

*In re* the Application of:

Docket No.: 55536.000008 (2040902-5011)

James D. THACKSTON

Serial No.: 10/005,350

Group Art Unit: 2125

Confirmation No. 7865

Filed: December 7, 2001

Examiner: RAO, Sheela S.

For: SYSTEM AND PROCESS FOR FACILITATING EFFICIENT COMMUNICATION OF SPECIFICATIONS FOR PARTS AND ASSEMBLIES WITH A MECHANISM FOR ASSIGNING RESPONSIBILITY SELECTION (AMENDED)

**DECLARATION OF JAMES D. THACKSTON UNDER 37 CFR § 1.132**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

I, James D. Thackston, declare the following:

1. I am the inventor of the above-identified patent application, Serial No. 10/005,350.
  
2. The above-identified patent application claims priority to provisional patent application Serial No. 60/251,585, filed on December 7, 2000.
  
3. I have read and I am familiar with the Office Action mailed February 15, 2005, pertaining to this application. In this Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 28-56 as being

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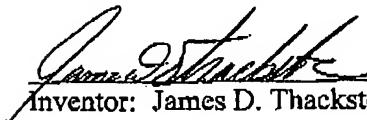
anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,295,513 to Thackston (the "Thackston Patent") under 35 C.F.R. § 102(e). A copy of the Thackston Patent is attached as Exhibit A.

4. I have read and I am very familiar with the Thackston Patent. The Thackston Patent has an effective publication date of September 21, 2001, as evidenced by the issue date of the Thackston Patent.

5. I am the sole inventor of the subject matter disclosed in the Thackston Patent. The entire Thackston Patent originated with and was obtained solely by me.

6. Further, I am the sole inventor of the subject matter of the present patent application serial no. 10/005,350. This subject matter originated with and was obtained solely by me.

7. All statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further, that the statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patents issuing thereon.

  
Inventor: James D. Thackston

Date 5/15/05